Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 10, delete the Paragraph [0036], and replace this paragraph with the following paragraph which has been marked up to show changes.

[0001] Although only a few embodiments of the present inventions have been described in detail in this disclosure, those skilled in the art who review this disclosure will readily appreciate that many modifications are possible (e.g. variations in sizes, dimensions, structures, shapes and proportions of the various elements, values of parameters, mounting arrangements, use of materials, colors, orientations, protocols, etc.) without materially departing from the novel teachings and advantages of the subject matter recited in the claims. For example, the hinge assembly may be provided in the base rather than in the cover. The "footprint" or shape of the cover and the base may be rectangular or square, round or oval, or any other shape. The cover and the base may be provided as multiple pieces. The container may include a supplemental platform (e.g. a three tiered configuration for wet-dry applications) shown in FIGURES 8A and 8B as platform 13. Accordingly, all such modifications are intended to be included within the scope of the present invention as defined in the appended claims. The order or sequence of any process or method steps may be varied or re-sequenced according to alternative embodiments. In the claims, any means-plus-function clause is intended to cover the structures described herein as performing the recited function and not only structural equivalents but also equivalent structures. Other substitutions, modifications, changes and omissions may be made in the design, operating conditions and arrangement of the preferred and other exemplary embodiments without departing from the spirit of the present inventions as expressed in the appended claims.

